



DEMA Facility – Training Rooms A & B

Date: September 23, 2004 **Meeting Date:** September 14, 2004

Location: DEMA Facility – Training Rooms A & B

Purpose: Statewide Transportation Management Team (TMT) Kickoff Meeting

List of Committee Members and Meeting Attendees:

See Attached Sheets

Handouts provided during the meeting:

- Transportation Incident and Event Management Plan (TIEMP) Final Draft
- Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex Final Draft
- DelDOT's Role in the Delaware Emergency Operations Plan (DEOP)
- DelDOT Maintenance and Operations District Maps
- TMC / Traffic Coordination and Communication List
- Levels of Response to Levels of Events Scenarios
- Check-off List for Incident Analysis
- PowerPoint Slides

I. PowerPoint Presentation

The Delaware Statewide Transportation Management Team (TMT) Kickoff Meeting opened with brief introductions from the meeting attendees and a PowerPoint presentation led by Gene Donaldson of DelDOT TMC/Traffic. Gene started the presentation by listing several accomplishments to date in incident management planning including final drafts of the TIEMP and Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex, updates to the DEOP and Transportation Security Plan, and meetings with individual emergency response agencies to promote the plans for a TMT.

Meeting Objective

Gene stated that the purpose of the Kickoff Meeting was to hold a joint meeting with Delaware's primary and support emergency response agencies to reach a consensus on the TMT concept. He also stressed that the meeting would serve as a forum for comments and concerns about the TMT concept and it would allow for an inter-agency agreement on how to move forward with the process.

Incident and Event Plans

Gene then provided an overview of the incident and event plans related to the TMT concept – namely the TIEMP, Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex, DEOP, and Transportation Security Plan. Gene also discussed DelDOT's organizational structure and highlighted the roles and responsibilities of the Maintenance and Operations, Division of Transportation Solutions, and Transportation Management Center (TMC) / Traffic. He also cited the ongoing work of the DelTrac Program and pointed out several of the program's accomplishments – TMC, travel advisory radio, statewide telecommunications, etc.





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Transportation Management Team (TMT) Concept

Gene addressed the TMT concept, which will establish teams of state and local police, fire, rescue, emergency management, environmental protection, EOCs, and transportation agencies to make decisions on how to handle incidents and events that impact the transportation system. He pointed out that the TMTs will be responsible for establishing communication, resources, and responsibility procedures and guidelines for the response to incidents and events.

Gene listed several keys to integrating the resources of the multi-agency TMTs successfully. These keys included establishing communication procedures, defining roles and responsibilities, developing planning and training exercises, and identifying how the levels of response can vary depending on the severity of an incident or event. He also expressed that each agency has different TMT resources in the form of people, vehicles, equipment, and materials.

Levels of Response to Levels of Events

The meeting participants were handed incident management scenarios to discuss how the level of emergency response is related to the "level" of an incident or event. The three scenarios involved a localized automobile accident along US 113 in Georgetown, an overturned tractor-trailer carrying a hazardous material on Interstate 495, and a severe winter storm. The scenarios helped demonstrate how the resources required to manage an incident or event are directly related to its severity. In particular, the attendees pointed out that in Scenario 2 the entire Northeast rail corridor could be shut down as a result of the overturned tractor-trailer, and this scenario would involve communication and coordination with other state and regional agencies.

Gene concluded the PowerPoint presentation with a summary of the goals and then opened up the floor for discussion.

II. Open Discussion on the TMT Concept

Major Randall L. Hughes of the Delaware State Police expressed the need for creating TMTs and emphasized the potential stakeholder benefits that will result from a more efficient and effective incident management plan. He cited the success of ongoing work in Sussex County and stated that the State will see additional dividends once TMTs are developed in the northern counties and other local areas.

Alternative Route Planning

Fire Chief Steve Kavanagh said that fire officials are concerned with motorists congesting neighborhood streets in an attempt to find alternate routes when main highways are closed. He stated that there is a need to find a way to get information to motorists to reduce congestion on neighborhood streets.

In a follow-up to Steve's comment, Marcia Nickle, New Castle County EOC, stated that primary, secondary, and tertiary roads should be classified for detour routes. Mark Alexander of DelDOT/Canal District indicated that the snow plans have a road classification system, which can be utilized to develop preplanned alternative routes; however, they need to be made public for motorist use.





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Funding

Gene Donaldson next addressed the funding options available if the response agencies create a "package" instead of make individual requests for funding and resources.

Communication

Mark Alexander of DelDOT/Canal District mentioned that the TMC has an on-call list for DelDOT employees in the case of incidents. Rodney Marvel, President of the DE Fire Chief's Association, commented that the list is not effective since supervisors often are called to incident scenes instead of personnel with the necessary resources (arrow boards, plows, etc.).

William Carrow of the Delaware State Police asked if the TMC monitors the Fire Board. Gene responded that the TMC monitors the Police/Fire CAD system and that the TMC is self-dispatching. Gene also stated that although the TMC may be responding to an incident, the TMC still should receive a formal request since it should not be assumed that the TMC is responding already.

Training

A representative from DTC also commented on how DART buses can be utilized in evacuations. He suggested developing training exercises for emergency response personnel to learn how to drive the DART buses in the case of an evacuation.

Gene also acknowledged that the TMC/Traffic is willing to work with the Delaware Fire School and Delaware State Police Academy to introduce the TMT concept in training exercises.

III. Next Steps

The meeting participants concluded the Kickoff Meeting with a joint agreement on how to move forward with the TMT concept. It was determined that the teams should address broader needs before discussing the needs of individual agencies. A consensus was reached that follow-up meetings will be held for each county, at which time point-persons will be identified for each response agency.

Tricia Faust of DelDOT's TMC/Traffic stated that participants can review the final drafts of the TIEMP and Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex and their comments will be addressed. The idea was also presented that at the countywide TMT meetings groups should get together and draft annexes similar to the Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex. The groups can build on the base plan (TIEMP) and use the Sussex County Hurricane Evacuation Annex as a template to identify each county's "players" and "basics" for incident management.

Lastly, DelDOT and TMC/Traffic welcomed other agencies to tour the Transportation Management Center and see the available resources for incident management. Parties interested in arranging a tour should contact Janine Lima, DelDOT TMC/Traffic, at (302) 659-2405.



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MINUTES OF MEETING Delaware Statewide TMT Kickoff Meeting September 14, 2004 DEMA Facility – Training Rooms A & B



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DEMA Facility – Training Rooms A & B

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